

## REMARKS

### **Overview**

Claims 1-17 are currently pending in the present application. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-17 are in allowable form.

### **Issues Under 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claims 1-5, 7-10, 12, 13 and 15-17 have rejected by Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,901,300 to Blevins in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,823,299 to Chang and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,367,475 to White. For all independent claims, currently claims 1, 9, 12 and 17, the Examiner has relied on the combination of Blevins and White. Applicants respectfully traverse.

Applicants wish to thank Examiner for acknowledging the Blevins reference does not teach at least using measured variable signals. Instead, the Examiner relies upon the disclosure White reference for this limitation. However, Applicants respectfully point out the "measured" data on which the Examiner relies in the White reference is actually based on initially providing the sensor with a sample signal which is then modeled by a signal vector and, thus, the entirety of the White variable signal is at best an approximation. This is the traditional method of modeling an operation which requires the operation to be at a steady state condition. Unlike such traditional processes, the present invention converts dynamically collected data into corresponding steady state data subsets. (Application, p. 3, lines 31-34). Additionally, and in contrast to the disclosure of White, the present invention uses measured process variables data from the outset. (Application, p. 4, lines 1-15). Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the disclosure of White fails to teach or reasonably suggest using actual or measured variable signals

in a method for controlling a controlled operation to determine a lag in measured data. For these reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of claims 1, 9, 12 and 17 based on Blevins in view of White be withdrawn. Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are in allowable form. As all remaining claims depend from one of claims 1, 9, or 12, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are now in allowable form.

### **Conclusion**

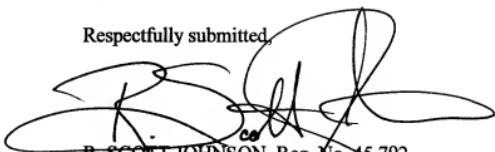
This Amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Please charge Deposit Account No. 26-0084 the amount of \$405.00 per the attached RCE Transmittal.

Please consider this a Request for a Three-Month Extension of Time from April 8, 2008 to July 8, 2008 and charge Deposit Account No. 26-0084 the amount of \$525.00 for this extension.

No other fees or extensions of time are believed to be due in connection with this amendment; however, consider this a request for any extension inadvertently omitted, and charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 26-0084.

Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



R. SCOTT JOHNSON, Reg. No. 45,792  
McKEE, VOORHEES & SEASE, P.L.C.  
801 Grand Avenue, Suite 3200  
Des Moines, Iowa 50309-2721  
Phone No: (515) 288-3667  
Fax No: (515) 288-1338  
**CUSTOMER NO: 22885**

Attorneys of Record

- pw -